

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER.

VOLUME XVI

ST. JOSEPH, MO., SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1921

NO. 48.

HERE'S BETTING THAT YOU WILL NOT BE THERE

At the Polls On Next Tuesday When the Constitutional Election Will Be Pulled Off

If You Are Not There Keep Your Mouth Closed If the Result Displeases You

Never in the past fifty years has there been such little interest and attention given to an election as there has been to the one coming off next week—and this an important one in the history of the state at that.

It is a safe proposition to state that eight out of every ten people who will read this paper have either forgotten or have not heard that there will be an election next Tuesday—but there will be—and it will pay them to be on hand and vote on the important measures that will confront them on the ballot given to them when they come to the election booth.

The fact that there is no politics and no party measures in this election is one of the reasons that there is no more interest taken or shown. When Democrat is arrayed against Republican there is always a chance for an argument—and there always is an argument.

As it is, a person can walk from the federal building to the Union station and never hear election or issues mentioned. The politicians are predicting that the lightest vote for years will be polled, despite the fact that the women will vote in this election.

A New Constitution
And not in years has there been such an important measure up for the suffrage of the people, and that is the matter of a new constitution. Those who want one can have it for the vote—if they have enough.

Those who want a new constitution claim that it will give added opportunity to push Missouri forward and give it a rank that they now claim this state does not hold.

Those who are opposed say that the new constitutionalists want a new instrument in order that there may be more opportunity to add on taxation in new and different ways—which our present constitution prevents and does not permit.

Then there is constitutional amendment No. 1 which would permit women to hold any office in the state and give them the chance to put man out of the running.

To Raise Interest Money
With the legislature quarrelling and dickering for the past sixty days and getting nowhere on the \$60,000,000 road bond disbursement, it does not look as though there would be any need of constitutional amendment No. 3, which provides that the interest of the sixty million bond issue be paid from motor vehicle license fees. Motor car owners are about equally divided on the proposition, it is said.

And the fourth and last constitutional amendment is the proposition to authorize the legislature to incur and provide by taxation for the payment of indebtedness not to exceed fifteen million dollars for bonuses to soldiers and sailors. This question is not a one-sided one by any means, as many suppose.

There will be a yes and a no following each proposition on the ballot that will be handed to you, and if you want to vote for a proposition of course you will scratch the no and allow the yes to stand. If you want to vote no, you will of course scratch the yes and let the no stand.

The principal thing to be done on Tuesday is to GO OUT TO THE POLLS. You will vote if you go out there, and will not unless you do. YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED—SO GO TO THE POLLS Tuesday, August 2.

LINDSAY SAYS HE SIGNED ORDINANCE
The sensation of the week in the street railway troubles caused by the intensive desire of Mayor Marshall to embarrass the company simply because he does not like it, developed on Thursday afternoon when after Mayor Marshall had returned the vetoed jitney ordinance to the council with the statement that it did not bear the signature of President Lindsay, the latter declared most positively that he had signed the ordinance at the time of its passage, and was verified in his statement by City Clerk Gates. The sheet which should bear this signature is torn out in which condition it was received from the mayor's office.

FORMERLY LIVED HERE

Lucien B. Wright, Now An Oklahoma District Judge, Is In Serious Trouble.

A former newspaper reporter who was well and favorably known here in the 90's when there was a strong field of "local men" at work, was Lucien B. Wright, who came from Booneville and for several years worked as a reporter on the old Gazette. He was a general favorite and by his genial manners made himself very popular. He left here to go to Oklahoma, where he prospered exceedingly and is now a district judge on the Sapulpa circuit. His many old friends here will be sorry to hear that he has become mixed up in a serious matter, and last week was arrested, charged with accepting a bribe while filling his office as district judge.

Mr. Wright had been on the circuit bench in the Oklahoma city for about two years and was recently mentioned as a probable Democratic candidate for governor at the next general election. A short time ago there was a case heard in his court which involved oil lands said to be worth about two million dollars. After he had rendered a decision in the case, the prosecuting attorney of the district filed an information against him charging him with having accepted a bribe of \$100,000, of which ten thousand dollars had been paid him before the case had been decided.

Wright was arrested and his bond fixed at ten thousand dollars, which he promptly filled and of course was discharged from the custody of an officer. Wright's lawyer says the case is nothing more than a frame-up and that the trial will develop Wright's innocence.

The case against Wright came to a halt on yesterday, after a large number of witnesses who gave various testimony had been heard. Justice Piltz, before whom it was conducted, ruled after the state's side had been heard that there was no evidence against Wright and he was discharged amid great applause from his friends.

BUMPED ON EVERY CORNER
The Public Service Commission Overrules Marshall and the New Fare Applies Tomorrow.

The best piece of news that St. Joseph has heard for many a day is that beginning tomorrow (Sunday) the people can ride on St. Joseph's good street car system at the rate of 6-2-3 cents per ride with transfers as usual. Mayor Marshall and his jitney system have been routed home, foot and dragons.

General Manager B. C. Adams and Attorney R. A. Brown went to Jefferson City yesterday and took up with the public service commission the agreement made between the city council and the street railway, and it approved it in every detail. The objection of Mayor Marshall was overruled and the street railway ordered to proceed to put the new rates into effect.

It will be with mighty comfortable feelings that the people will on tomorrow note the reduction which means considerable to each patron in the course of a year.

MORE ST. JOSEPH BODIES COMING
The bodies of Private Edward V. Kelley, brother of John Kelley of 1724 South Tenth street, is expected to arrive from Hoboken this morning, as is also the remains of Private Andrew J. Fountain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Fountain of French Bottoms, and also that of Private Harold O. Penniwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Penniwell of 1962 South 24th street. The remains of Private Earl C. Payne, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Payne, 2406 South Eighteenth street, who was killed Oct. 8, 1918, will arrive tomorrow. Funeral services for all of the departed soldiers will be conducted by the Legion posts.

IT WAS BEAN LAKE

And Not Sugar Lake at Which the Alleged Bootlegging Activities Occurred.

Of course all well regulated families have well intended, but unfortunate mistakes occur—for if these mistakes did not occur the family would not be well regulated, therefore it is with this knowledge fully before it that this paper confesses to a serious blunder which occurred in its last issue and which was large enough and wide enough and big enough to take in the entire surface and surrounding territory of Sugar and Bean lakes.

In the article relative to the death of George Myers, the farmer who was supposed to have been killed on account of his activities in trying to bring the bootleggers who infest the Bean Lake vicinity to justice, the statement was made all through the article that Sugar Lake was the point at which all of these irregularities had occurred, when in place it should have been Bean Lake. Still further south of Sugar Lake. The blunder was not noticed until after the paper had gone out to its subscribers, and does Sugar Lake and that excellent neighborhood a serious injustice.

Sugar Lake instead of being a resort for questionable characters, is the exact opposite and that is the reason that it is so heavily patronized by St. Joseph and the people of this entire section. Mr. Joseph Connor, who owns most of the lake front and conducts the fishing resorts there is a son of the late Justice Connor and one of the most law-abiding citizens of the county, who would not tolerate a law infraction.

INTO THE RIVER
Ten Cars of a Burlington Freight Carry Men and Stock to Death.

When brakeman Albert Delaney of this city, who was in the caboose along with conductor Wright, also of this place, felt a sudden jolt of the long extra Burlington stock train which had left this city early Monday morning and was then three miles this side of Kansas City, he ran forward toward the engine, and as he neared it he stopped, for car after car was disappearing seemingly into the earth while the engine was entirely out of sight, as also were engineer Louis P. Neilson, fireman Clarence Fay and head brakeman Charles M. Meinhardt, all of this city. One by one ten cars, all loaded with cattle and hogs, disappeared, and then the rest of the train came to a halt and the car disappearance subsided—and Delaney managed to recover his breath.

At the point where all of this happened the Burlington tracks are near the Missouri banks, and here the tracks had become undermined from the water's action and when the heavy train struck it the earth crumbled and the engine, men and cars of stock disappeared. Some of the cars in falling into the thirty-five feet of water had broken open allowing some of the stock to escape, which swam ashore and was recaptured. The major portion of the ten cars was drowned. The wreck will be a costly one for the company.

The body of engineer Neilson was found Wednesday morning, lodged in a drift five hundred feet below where it went down. The remains were brought to this city and interred Thursday afternoon, Rev. C. M. Chilton conducting the services.

COUNCIL PASSES BILL
The Park and Boulevard Bills Go Through at the Meeting Tuesday Night.

With a crowd that filled every inch of space at the council chamber Tuesday night, and which cheered every utterance which tended toward a modern park and boulevard plan, the fifteen ordinances which make possible such a consummation were passed in record time, and without a dissenting vote or voice. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed at the meeting and when all was over the shouting was tremendous.

Mayor Marshall began the next day going over the ordinances and signed ten of them in rotation. He also at the same time returned with his veto the jitney and motor bus bills, and the street railway fare bills.

Referendum petitions are now being circulated asking for the submission of the park and boulevard proposition to a vote of the people.

That lone voice from Hyannis seems to have "cut the mustard."

WHEN SHE FIRST CAME TO ST. JOSEPH IN 1861

AND THE PLACE WAS NOT OF THE IMPORTANCE THAT IT IS NOW

MRS. WOLCOTT TELLS OF HER RIVER JOURNEY

On Account of the Low Stage of the Missouri She With the Party to Which She Was Attached Were Dropped Off the Steamer at a Place at That Time Known as Gaitan But Which Has Long Ago Been Gobbled Up by the Rapacious Missouri and Even Its Site Is Lost.

Many interesting accounts have been printed of the journeys of people to St. Joseph in the early days, all of which are of more or less interest. Some of them are fair, some good and others mediocre. One of the best to be printed lately is that of Mrs. S. S. Wolcott, now residing at Maryville, and which was published in the Burlington Junction Post. This estimable lady tells of her trip from Tennessee in this way:

"In March, 1861, our family left a quiet, southern town in Tennessee with its schools and churches, its warm delightful climate tempered by the mountain air from the grand old Cumberland whose blue summits skirted the horizon, and came by freight to Nashville, 90 miles north-west. Here we embarked on a tiny stern wheel boat which for several days buffeted the waves of the Cumberland river into the Ohio, and then the Missouri and on to St. Louis. Our boat was so small that steamers coming down the river would run as close as possible to see us rock on the

(Continued on Page Five.)

SIGNED TEN OF THEM
Mayor Marshall Returns Five of the Park Ordinances to President Lindsay.

After he had signed ten of the park and boulevard ordinances, Mayor Marshall laid down his pen and left for New York, returning the other five ordinances to President Lindsay of the council who, as he voted for them, will no doubt affix his signature and make them effective. Mayor Marshall sent a note with the five ordinances saying he had no time to go over them but would not veto them. Those on which he withheld his signature are:

Providing for a parkway within the city limits, extending from Mansfield road south and west to the area between Third and Fourth streets, thence south between Third and Fourth streets to Hyde Park.

Providing for a parkway without the city limits, extending from the city limits just south of the Connell brickyard, passing west of the Woodson Sanitarium and ending at a point just south of the interurban tracks on the Fourteenth street road.

Providing for a parkway within the city limits, beginning at Bartlett Park and extending south through the Bartlett and Stigers' property to the city limits on Pacific street.

The Holman street project, lying between Holman street and Grand avenue, from Twenty-second street to the Great Western tracks.

Parkway through Corby Grove, extending from a point just south of the interurban tracks on Eleventh street road to the city limits at Mansfield road.

SPENCER WILL HURRY UP
Not over one-third of the paving of the Agency road which is being done by William Spencer of Independence, Mo., has been completed, although he has been at work since a year ago last May. This week the county court got after him and threatened to close down the work unless it was speeded up. On Tuesday Spencer notified the court that he would hustle, and have the contract completed by Oct. 1, next.

SO SMITH JUST KILLED HIS WIFE
C. H. Smith, a negro, thirty years of age, told the police Saturday night after he had pumped five revolver bullets into his wife at their home, 1503 Holman street, and she had obediently died, that he was afraid that he might die and not be able to take care of her, and for that reason he decided it best to take care of her by the pistol route. He is in jail.

STAND SQUARELY BY THEM

The Commerce Club Directors Show What They Think of the Aldermen's Courageous Stand.

If there had been even a lingering doubt of the way that the Commerce Club felt in the street car troubles that doubt was completely dispelled by the action of the board of directors of that substantial institution which represents all business interests of St. Joseph when they put themselves and the club squarely behind Aldermen E. M. Lindsay, Henry E. Grosser, W. H. Hunt and J. W. Holtman if recall petitions are filed, and endorsed their action in the agreement on street car fares in this strong resolution unanimously passed:

"Resolved, By the officers and directors of the Commerce Club, that we earnestly commend Councilmen E. M. Lindsay, J. W. Holtman, W. H. Hunt and Henry E. Grosser for their action in settling the long standing controversy between the city of St. Joseph and the street railway company. We feel that the terms agreed upon are fair and reasonable to all parties concerned, and that the street car fare of 6-2-3 cents is lower than in nearly any other city of this size in the United States. We congratulate the four members of the city council upon the success of their negotiations, and upon the unlimited time and careful thought they devoted to the settlement. We believe that the great majority of the citizens of St. Joseph are well pleased that the long quarrel is about to be ended, so that the street railway company may work along with the rest of our business institutions for the upbuilding of St. Joseph.

"We pledge to E. M. Lindsay, J. W. Holtman, W. H. Hunt and Henry E. Grosser the hearty and active support of the officers, directors and members of the Commerce Club in any recall proceedings, if a recall election is had."

This resolution will set at rest all cavil and doubt as to where the Commerce Club stands.

MOTOR CAR TROUBLES
Some Were Stolen, Others Met With Mishaps and Others With Accidents Sunday.

Sunday was a bad day for motor cars and Monday was a worse day for many motor car owners.

Ernest Coy had his flivver stolen from his home, 2312 Lafayette street; Martin Peters of Atchison had his flivver stolen at the lake; Herman Smith's Studebaker was stolen from the ball park; and O. V. Lawrence, W. H. Lower and John Short had parts of their cars stolen.

Gustaf Johnson and Roy Grubb had a bad collision at Savannah avenue and Middleton streets; D. Silverford had his car crashed into at Sixth and Atchison and badly damaged; Robt. McDonald collided with Lawrence Cleary's motorcycle; F. J. Burkhardt and J. H. Leighton collided at Seventh and Charles; and Claude Frixzell and B. B. Moran's cars smashed each other at Fourth and Felix.

G. F. Bucher, 818 North Ninth paid \$50 in police court Monday for driving his car while drunk; Steve Butovich \$10 for blocking traffic; Charles Halstead \$5 for a like offense; Fred Boleksi \$15 for speeding, and a dozen others paid minor fines for minor traffic violations.

WILL BUILD NEW STRUCTURE AT NO. 2.
That State Hospital No. 2 will have a new structure—or perhaps two of them—is the good news that comes from Jefferson City caused by the passage by the legislature of the general relief and deficiency appropriation bill carrying about \$700,000, of which amount \$200,000 goes to State Hospital No. 2 here for new buildings.

Supt. Williams stated that the \$200,000 appropriated would no doubt be used for the erection of additional quarters for patients which are very badly needed. It is estimated the new quarters would accommodate over one hundred patients. At present the hospital is badly crowded, having 1,834 patients when it can only accommodate 1,500.

MAYOR WANTS ACTION AGAINST STREET RAILWAY
In a lengthy letter to city counselor A. F. Lindsay sent to him on Monday, Mayor Marshall ordered the council to look up the law and see if it is possible as he claimed to force the street railway to do its share of the paving on streets where it should do so—and if it will not the mayor wants it put into the hands of a receiver.

THE TARIFF PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

WHAT WASHINGTON NOW THINKS OF THE PRESENT PECULIAR SITUATION

A TARIFF TO PROTECT ONE RUINS THE OTHER

If the American Sorplus Can Go Where It Is Needed and Wanted It Would Give the Farmers Money to Spend But If It Remains in the Elevators and Granaries There Promises to be Great Troubles for This Section of the World.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—(Special Correspondence.)—The probability that the Senate would sidetrack the tariff bill and take up the tax revision bill when the two measures reach that body was strengthened when President Harding in his speech urging delay of the soldiers' bonus bill, cited as the first of the three things essential at this time the revision of our internal taxation. The great bulk of our taxes, of course, comes from internal taxation and the readjustment of this taxation is essential to the proper conduct of business all over the country; yet Congress is fiddling over a tariff bill, estimated at the highest to yield \$500,000,000 when the expenditures to be met run between five and six billions.

Business men are clamoring for tax revision, and business conditions have become so bad that Chairman George White of the Democratic National committee, himself a business man, felt impelled to issue a statement based on President Harding's address to the Senate, pointing out that that two years and two months ago, President Wilson upon his return from the peace conference in May, 1919, urged

(Continued on Page 5.)

WILL PROBABLY VETO IT
Gov. Hyde Will Make Short Work of the Lysight Bill Assessing Paving Taxes.

The Lysight bill which passed by a unanimous vote in both branches of the legislature, and which provides for a new way of assessing paving taxes here seems, despite its good record, doomed to destruction. The bill was sponsored by the Commerce Club and Senator Lysight put it through on record breaking time. All of the St. Joseph members voted for the bill.

Thursday Gov. Hyde asked the mayor and city officials for an opinion of the bill and he, the city counselor and president of the board of public works sent him a letter asking him to veto it. The letter is as follows:

"We ask you to oppose the passage of senate bill No. 72, for the following reasons:

"1. The plan as outlined in the bill is unworkable in St. Joseph, and while intended to be an alternative, will simply enable the opposition to public progress to delay street improvements.

"2. The legislative committee appointed by the mayor last winter, after careful investigation, decide against any change of consequence in our paving laws, until a new constitution of the state is written and then make laws to conform.

"3. The plan of having the city pay for intersections after more than half the city is paved and intersections have been paid by abutting property owners, should be most carefully considered.

"4. The bonds as provided for in bill become a part of the 10 per cent of our assessed valuation that we may vote and in the next few years this will be urgently needed for other public improvement which can only be paid for by bond issues.

"ELLIOTT MARSHALL, Mayor.
"CHAS. NOWLAND, Pres. B. P. W.
"ALVA F. LINDSAY, City Counselor."

SAMUEL ROUND DROWNED IN BEAN LAKE
Bean lake had its regular drowning on Sunday, when Samuel W. Round, 18 years of age, a butcher employed at the Morris plant at the stock yards here, was either overcome by fatigue or afflicted with cramps while swimming in that lake and was drowned. The body was recovered an hour later and was brought home to this city, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Round, live at 118 South 22nd street. The funeral occurred Tuesday.

TO INCREASE TAXATION

That Is What R. W. Barrow, a Well Known Attorney, Says of Constitution Project.

A large number of St. Joseph people received copies of a letter that R. W. Barrow, one of the most prominent attorneys of Macon, sent out this week relative to the proposed new constitution, to which he is opposed. In his letter he says:

"The main purpose, it appears to me, of the new constitution advocates, is to increase the limits of taxation, and the limits as to bonded indebtedness in counties, cities, townships and school districts, and every form of bond paid by taxation, so as to get still more money in taxes, to be spent in millions by the various leagues, movements and propagandists on their various schemes, to create more offices and officers, to increase salaries and wages for all kinds of so-called public work, including pensions, when they retire. This is the real milk in the coconut in the agitation for a new constitution, it seems to me.

"The present Missouri constitution is a good one and provides that bonds can only be issued by state, counties, cities, or towns for these purposes, above certain limits, by a vote of the people and then only to certain limits. It also provides that no money raised by taxation can be used for private purposes directly or indirectly. It limits the powers of officers of the state, counties, cities, townships and school districts very strictly as to their duties and leaves the final and decisive powers in the hand of the voters. These limitations are very inconvenient to grafters who want to make big money out of public contracts and movements and they want to make a new constitution and take these restrictions out and give the officers more power and the voters less. Promoters and extortioners of public money have better luck working with officers with enlarged powers than they do when they have to take a vote of the people on these things. People with sound and honest propositions surely do not need to be afraid of submitting them to a vote of the people, so why should good people object to necessary restrictions to defeat dishonest and unfair measures?"

He closes by saying:

"The big danger is that the country vote won't turn out on August 2d. The large cities are liable to vote for the constitutional change. Every farmer should be sure to vote that day, and take your wives and sons and daughters and all vote 'No' on this issue. It will be the most valuable day's work you can do this year, it seems to me."

\$50,000 FOR THE RIVER
After a Hard Fight Money Is Secured to Cloke Off the Missouri.

Chairman E. L. Platt of the Commerce Club Missouri River Improvement committee received a telegram on Tuesday from Congressman Charles L. Faust advising him that following a conference that morning between Mr. Faust and the Missouri and Kansas senators with Secretary of War Weeks, that \$50,000 had been set aside as a fund to be used for emergency work on the Missouri where it is cutting at Belmont and Lake Contrary bends. The work will start at once and the city be saved from disaster.

The hard work done by Congressman Faust won its merited recognition over the protests of the army engineers who always oppose from custom all appropriations asked for protective work. He had able assistants who also are entitled to much credit.

OTIS INSTITUTES PROCEEDINGS IN CASE
On Wednesday assistant attorney general, Merrill E. Otis, at Jefferson City instituted quo warranto proceedings in the supreme court to test in a friendly suit the question of the constitutionality of the law creating the municipal court for this county. It is expected to have a speedy determination. In the interim Judge May is holding court each day and the county court is paying him his salary.

A commission from Jefferson City has been here all this week conducting an investigation into the qualifications of the petitioners for the referendum in the medical act. A number of alleged irregularities have been found. The commission goes from here to Flatte City for another hitch.